

Maestro Muti's background is impressive and commands immense respect in the musical community. He has conducted many important orchestras around the world, including the New York Philharmonic, the Orchestre National de France, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic, and more.

Maestro Muti already has some familiarity with our City's outstanding orchestra, having conducted the CSO at Ravinia in 1973 and returning to Symphony Center in 1975 as well as three decades later in 2007. When he begins his tenure as music director in 2010, I know that he and the CSO will continue to excel in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Riccardo Muti in his new position as music director at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and wish him the best of luck as Chicago's new maestro.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDDIE
HARRISON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eddie Harrison of Waldron, Arkansas, and to recognize his 45 years of dedication and commitment in the classroom at Waldron High School as he embarks on his retirement from teaching.

I commend Mr. Eddie Harrison for his efforts and accomplishments over the years and applaud his hard work and devotion to improving the quality of education for countless students at Waldron High School. As a son of public school educators, I believe the most important component of a child's education is having a quality teacher like Mr. Harrison in the classroom.

Mr. Harrison's school day did not start and end with a bell, instead it began with early morning meetings and concluded when the last buzzer sounded at a sporting event. He dedicated his time to multiple organizations and was always the first to volunteer for projects at hand.

When Mr. Harrison is not in the classroom or on the campus of Waldron High School, he can be found at the Waldron First Baptist Church where he serves as Deacon and is actively involved in his church's ministry. He is also a proud uncle, whose devotion to his family is second to none.

Eddie Harrison's presence in the classroom will be greatly missed by the students, faculty and staff of Waldron High School, where his legacy of excellence will forever be remembered. I know that his heart will never drift far from Waldron, and that he will continue to be a fixture in the community and a role model for all that have the opportunity to know him.

I have always believed that there is no greater form of public service than that performed by those who teach our children. I congratulate Eddie Harrison on a job well done for 45 years of teaching at Waldron High School. I wish him a successful future of happiness and fulfillment in his next endeavor, and am proud to commend his selfless work to help shape a new generation of innovators.

THE DAILY 45: PACOIMA
SHOOTINGS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. From coast to coast, the stories ring familiar.

In Los Angeles, police said this morning that they are investigating two separate shootings in Pacoima that left two men dead. One man, whose name has not been released, suffered gunshot wounds to his head and body. He was taken to a local hospital where he later died. In a separate incident, in the same area, another man was fatally wounded in an apparent drive-by shooting around 3 p.m. Tuesday. These daily shootings must end.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will Americans say "Enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNIZING REALTORS AND
THEIR ROLE IN THE AMERICAN
DREAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize America's realtors. I would like to specifically recognize fifteen realtors, who are in Washington, D.C. today, for their commitment to the neighborhoods and communities across North Texas, the place I am proud to call home. I would also like to welcome these fellow Texans to our Nation's capital city.

Realtors are a vital part of the American way of life. They help to provide the citizens of the United States with one of the most basic American Dreams: the joy of home ownership. I remember when I was looking to buy my first home, I was unsure about what I could expect or what processes I needed to take. Realtors helped me through the process and I am very grateful for the kindness and generosity they demonstrated.

I would like to recognize the fifteen realtors from my district who are in Washington, D.C. right now: with the Greater Lewisville Association of REALTORS, Inc., Connie Niedzwiecki, Cathy Smith, and Lynda Bennett; with the North Texas Real Estate Information Services, Inc., Mikie Doyle; with the Greater Denton/Wise County Association of REALTORS, Inc., Chris Rosprim, Myra Oliver, Mary O'Conner, Kaki Lybbert, and Kara Phelps; with the Greater Fort Worth Association of REALTORS, Inc., Ken Jones, Dan Odom and Colleen Odom; and with the MetroTex Association of REALTORS, Inc., Eloise Eriksson, Judy Jones and Barbara Alsworth.

Madam Speaker, I am very grateful for the hard work of these aforementioned professionals and the great service they provide to their local communities. Their energy, skills and commitment have made North Texas a better place to live and I am proud to have them here today.

HONORING DR. ODETE AMARELO
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RE-
TIREMENT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful Massachusetts resident, Dr. Odete Amarelo, on the occasion of her retirement.

Maria Odete Cordeiro Morgado Amarelo was born in Arrifes, Rua da Saude, in the Azores. After a visit from Cardinal Humberto de Sousa Medeiros that served as a great inspiration, her family made the decision to make a new life in the United States.

Dr. Odete used her great energy, drive and passion to help others. She enrolled in a night program at Bristol Community College, eventually transferring to the University of Massachusetts. Two years later, she was hired by the Fall River School Department as a Teacher Assistant in the bilingual program. She later earned a BA from the University of Boston, a Master's Degree from Lesley College and a Doctorate Degree in Literacy from the Union Institute.

Madam Speaker, that final degree I mentioned, a Doctorate in Literacy, says it all. Dr. Odete believes that education based upon literacy is a fundamental right. This has been her life's work, and her life's passion. As Dr. Odete has said, "literacy can't exist in an isolated form, it's a process that is a part of our continued development."

Currently, Dr. Odete serves as the School/Parent coordinator for the Magnet Program in the Fall River Schools.

I am proud to rise today in honoring Dr. Odete Amarelo and to thank her for her extraordinary work on behalf of the people of Fall River. Dr. Odete once said, "it's not sufficient to say that we care, but to act and identify what is not right." Dr. Odete has been acting and identifying—and fixing—what is not right for many, many years. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in paying tribute to this remarkable woman.

HONORING WOODCLIFF LAKE
D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today, the Woodcliff Lake Police Department will hold its D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony with the students of Dorchester School. The young people participating in this important program have made a commitment to say no to drugs, underage drinking, and gang violence. They have done this with the support of their principal, John Fierro, Chief of Police Anthony Jannicelli and D.A.R.E. officers Chad Malloy and James Foley.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., began as a small program in Los Angeles in 1983. Today, it is implemented in more than 75 percent of our Nation's school districts and in more than 43 other nations. This program allows children to defeat the

negative cultural influences that they are challenged with daily by opening the lines of communication between law enforcement and youth and empowering them with confidence and courage to say no to drugs.

I am proud of the young boys and girls who participated in this program in Woodcliff Lake, and I would like to recognize them all for taking this step toward positive citizenship:

Christopher Acciardi, Nicole Alberta, Naseeb Ally, Max Aronson, Maryanna Arundel, Noah Bardach, Albert Barragan, Alexis Bernstein, Zachary Bernstein, Christopher Blake, Nicholas Bonnett, Alexandra Castiel, Marc Castrillon, Karen Choi, Ellen Drennan, Matthew Evans, Mackenzie Evans, Brandon Fazal, Rachel Fisher, Brandon Friedman, Keith Gliksman, Michael Goldstein, Ian Groh, Erica Grunfeld, Alexandria Guo, Karin Hadadan, Ashley Hahn, John Henrich, Gianna Hronich, Ari Jigarjian, Brigitte Josephson, Avantika Joshi, Senyoung Kim, Chelsea Kirnum, Kathryn Klecanda, Katarina Kokkosis, Saniya Kumar, Morgan Landman, Justin Lane, Adam Lefkowitz, Brett Levine, Hanna Levy, Sophia Logothetis, Tomasso Lombardi, Chloe Mann, Brian Marolda, Samantha McGovern, Kayla McGraw, Alexander Meleniak, Celine Mileham, Vernice Miller, Nicole Miller, Daniel Miller, Cole Moran, Melissa Nachbaur, Vicky Patel, Thomas Patire, Jordan Perez, Noah Personette, Alex Pettie, Lianna Port, Austin Rahmin, Richard Rebori, Peter Rubenstein, Rachel Samitt, Mihir Sangoi, Maximilian Sarbu, Devin Sargent, Maya Scharf, Alexa Schecter, Connor Schultz, Kyle Schultz, Shunpei Seki, Isabel Sella, Julia Shin, Jacqueline Skene, Alana Smolinsky, W. Maxwell Song, Margo Spector, Constantine Stavrianidis, Alexander Todfield, Sere Tonuzi, Natalia Torres, Christopher Toto, David VanPelt, Apoorva Vasireddy, Harrison Weinfeld, Noah Winston, Rachel Yannelli, Vincent Yannelli, Josephine Yao, Christopher Zariello.

HONORING JOHN ROGERS' DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Rogers of Rockland, Massachusetts, and to recognize his long and distinguished career in public service.

John has devoted his life to educating young people most notably as a teacher and then during his twenty-three-year tenure as Superintendent of the Rockland Public Schools. In addition, he has worked to improve the quality of life for people of all ages in Rockland through his service as a Selectman and as President of the Rockland Chamber of Commerce. In recent years, he has played an instrumental role in the redevelopment of the South Weymouth Naval Air Station by representing the people of Rockland on the Board of Directors of the South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation.

While serving on the Tri-Town board, he helped shape and build consensus on a rede-

velopment master plan that will serve as an engine of economic growth in the surrounding communities. The plan has won accolades from local and national groups as a "smart growth" initiative and a model for future sustainable development projects throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

John will continue his lifelong service to his community as a newly elected member of the Rockland Housing Authority, and as he retires from his position on the Tri-Town Board, I want to him to know that we are forever grateful for all that he has done. We will always appreciate his unwavering leadership, his vision and his tireless commitment to advancing the quality of life for the people of Rockland and the greater South Shore area.

On behalf of a grateful constituency, I rise today to thank John Rogers for all that he has done for our community, and to wish him success in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. COUTS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. John Coutts is one of these individuals. On May 17, 2008, John will be recognized at the Corona-Norco Family YMCA's 13th Anniversary Distinguished Service Awards Dinner and will receive the YMCA Distinguished Service Award.

John Coutts is President of Coutts Heating and Cooling, Inc., a mechanical contracting company that has operated in Corona for thirty years. Cents Heating and Cooling, established in 1978, owes its long-standing success to its simple, yet driving business philosophy: honesty, integrity, and putting the best interest of the customer first. Coutts Heating and Cooling, Inc. is a Union Contractor providing heating, ventilating and air-conditioning services in addition to mechanical piping and energy management controls to commercial, industrial, medical and educational facilities.

The story of Coutts Heating and Cooling is a small business success story that began with a team of four family members and a determination to succeed. From their entrepreneurial beginnings, the business has evolved into a major corporation, employing 200 people. A major component of the growth of Coutts Heating and Cooling has been their unwavering commitment to family-owned values.

John's life has been woven into the fabric of the City of Corona for more than three decades. He and his wife, Carolyn, raised and educated two daughters in Corona. For many years both Carolyn and John were active in booster and fundraising activities for cheerleading and athletics, spending countless hours supporting their daughters' endeavors. As their children grew into their own lives,

John's contributions to the community evolved from school and athletic events into community causes.

John currently sits on the Board of the Foundation for Community and Family Healthy were he has been instrumental in spearheading and promoting an annual giving program that will provide long-term funding for the Foundation's countless outreach programs. As a business owner, not only has John been extremely active in industry and trade associations at a local and state level, he has also been a member and active supporter of the Corona Chamber of Commerce. For the past eight months, John has shared his professional expertise as a member of a selectively chosen group of business owners who comprise the Chamber's Legislative Action Committee—monitoring and lobbying to pass legislation that will have a positive impact on Corona businesses. John and Carolyn also support numerous philanthropic causes and give generously to support community programs funded by non-profit agencies.

John's tireless passion for the high quality of his business and community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. I am proud to call John a fellow community member, American and friend. I salute him and thank him for his service as he receives the prestigious YMCA Distinguished Service Award.

CONGRATULATING GRINNELL COLLEGE MEN'S TENNIS TEAM

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 1, 2008

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by head coach Andy Hamilton and the Grinnell College men's tennis team this spring. In early May the Pioneers won their first ever NCAA tournament match and their 5th consecutive Midwest Conference title. Grinnell now has an 11th conference championship trophy to add to their case!

I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Grinnell men's tennis team, both on and off the court. Three Grinnell College tennis players—Dan LaFountaine, Brij Patnaik, and Pete De Kock—have worked for me and served the people of Iowa's First District. And countless other Grinnellians, including my Legislative Director Mike Goodman, are working in public life to build a stronger, more just Nation.

Arthur Ashe—the great American public intellectual, civil rights advocate, and tennis player—said, "From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." Grinnell faculty, coaches, students, and alumni understand this truth. The Grinnell men's tennis team had a great season in 2008, and these student athletes are poised to give great things to our communities in the future.